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Contact: Heather Moeder Molino
Office: (202) 225-7690
Mobile: (703) 615-5371

House Intelligence Committee Completes Markup of FY12 Intelligence Authorization Bill

Measure Passes Overwhelmingly by Voice Vote

(Washington, D.C) – Congressman C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD), Ranking Member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and HPSCI Chairman Mike Rogers (R-MI) today announced the committee has completed its markup of the Intelligence Authorization Bill for FY 2012. The bill passed the committee in a unanimous voice vote.

The completion of the committee's markup of the FY12 Intel Authorization Bill comes quickly on the heels of the House passage of the committee's FY11 Authorization Bill, which passed the House with an overwhelming bi-partisan vote less than two weeks ago.

When Ranking Member Ruppersberger and Chairman Mike Rogers took over as the leadership of the HPSCI in January of this year, one of their top priorities was to reassert the Committee as the force for serious bipartisan oversight, and to restore the critical function of the committee, which is to pass meaningful, annual intelligence authorization bills.

"The way Congress conducts effective oversight of the Intelligence Community is by passing an intelligence budget. This bill does this and ensures our intelligence professionals have the resources, capabilities and authorities they need to keep our country safe," said Ranking Member Ruppersberger. "This bill also honors the service and sacrifice of our intelligence professionals at the CIA by giving them the benefits they deserve."

A main feature of the marked up bill is a provision that was identified by the CIA as needed after the Khowst bombing. The provision will provide for a burial benefit for CIA employees killed in the line of duty as well as clarifications of authorities relating to the solicitation and acceptance of gifts for injured employees and the families of employees killed in the line of duty.

"The committee has reported out a bill that provides and allocates resources to critical national security programs, including those that detect, prevent, and disrupt potential terrorist attacks against the American people," said Chairman Rogers. "Additionally, the bill coming out of the committee today ensures that we provide proper burial services for our intelligence agents who make the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country, and that CIA employees have the ability to offer gifts to the family members of deceased colleagues," Rogers said.

The bill now moves to the House Floor for consideration.

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